

Glossary of Terms: (Glossary is incomplete at this time)

Access for Channel Maintenance - an area where machinery or humans can reach an agricultural watercourse to perform necessary work.

Access Road – a constructed thoroughway by which man and/or machinery can reach an agricultural watercourse.

Adaptive management – a service-based management approach that enables a critical review of how well our actions achieve their objectives and, based on results of monitoring and evaluation efforts, suggest what steps are necessary to increase the chance for success.

Agricultural Watercourse – a conveyance that provides important drainage functions for agricultural lands.

Agricultural Watercourse Maintenance – work performed to maintain the intended functions of drainage system components.

Altered Watercourse – a natural stream that has had its channel modified by man made actions.

Approval – authorization to perform a designated activity.

Artificial Drainage – removal of free water from soil by surface mounding, ditches, or sub-surface tiles to the extent that water tables are changes significantly in connection with specific land uses.

Artificial Watercourse – a man-made water conveyance channel.

Authorization – approval to perform specified work.

Bank – means any land surface above the ordinary high water line that adjoins a body of water and contains it except during floods. Bank also includes all land surfaces of islands of islands above the ordinary high water line that adjoin a water body and that are below the flood evaluation of their surrounding water body.

Bank Stabilization – the use of bioengineering, bank armoring, plant materials or other means to retain the structural integrity of the side of a channel. (see streambank stabilization.)

Base Flow Freeboard – the area between the average water height and the top of the bank.

Bed – the land below the ordinary high water lines of state waters. This definition shall not include irrigation ditches, canals, storm water run-off devices, or other artificial watercourses except where they exist in a natural watercourse that has been altered by man.

Bed materials – naturally occurring material, including, but not limited to, gravel, cobble, rock, sand, mud, and aquatic plants, found in the beds of state waters. Bed materials may be found in deposits or bars above the wetted perimeter of water bodies.

Beneficial Insects –

Best Management Practice (BMP) – Methods and techniques for minimizing nonpoint pollution; from Section 208 of the Clean Water Act.

Bio-engineering Method – project designs or construction methods which use live woody vegetation or a combination of live woody vegetation and specially developed natural or synthetic materials to establish a complex root grid within the existing bank which is resistant to erosion, provides bank stability, and maintains a healthy riparian environment with habitat features important to fish life. Use of wood structures or limited use of clean, angular rock may be allowable to provide for the establishment of the vegetation.

Biological Integrity and Function of Ditches -

Boulder – a stream substrate particle larger than ten inches in diameter.

Bulkhead – a vertical or nearly vertical erosion protection structure placed parallel to the shoreline consisting of concrete, timber, steel, rock, or other permanent material not readily subject to erosion.

Channel – a waterway with obvious banks that contains moving water at least part of the year.

Channel Bed Morphology -

Channelized – a portion of a river/stream channel that has been enlarged, deepened, and/or straightened, and often has armored banks.

Channel Maintenance – removing obstructions from a watercourse to maintain drainage or flood control functions.

Channeled Waterways – watercourses that have been straightened.

Cofferdam – a temporary enclosure used to keep water from a work area.

Conservation District – a subdivision of state government organized under chapter 89.08 RCW

Conservation District Board of Supervisors – the five member governing body of a conservation district.

Conservation Plan – a record of the client's decisions and supporting information, for treatment of a unit of land or water as a result of the planning process, that meets FOTG quality criteria for

each natural resource (soil, water, animal, plant, and air) and takes into account economic and social considerations.

Conservation Practice – a specific treatment, such as a structural or vegetative measure, or management technique commonly used to meet a specific need in planning and carrying out conservation programs for which standards and specifications have been developed.

Consider –

Constructed Ditches – man-made watercourses with a primary function of drainage excess surface water.

Constructed Watercourses – man-made water conveyance systems.

Critical Rearing Habitat -

Dispute Resolution Panel – a designated body whose purpose is to provide resolution to problems arising from the development or implementation of a farm plan or drainage district maintenance plan.

Ditch – a man made watercourse with the principal function of carrying stormwater to an outlet.

Drainage District – a political sub-division of the state authorized under

Drainage District Maintenance Plan – a conservation plan addressing resource concerns related to on-going drainage maintenance practices prepared for a drainage district.

Drainage District Maintenance Plan Agreement -

Drain Tile Outlets – the point at which an underground water conveyance system with a primary purpose of drainage reaches an open channel.

Drawdown – means decreasing the level of standing water in a watercourse to expose bottom sediments and rooted plants.

Dredging – removal of bed material using other than hand held tools.

Dry Bottom – holding no water

Dry Ditches – man made ditches that are dry for the summer and early fall period and were primarily constructed to manage winter storm events.

Emergency – an immediate threat to life, public or private property, or an immediate threat of serious environmental degradation, arising from whether or stream flow conditions, or other natural conditions, or fire.

Emergency Works – maintenance, repair and preventative actions necessary due to an emergency situation.

Emergency Works Protocol - the standardized and acceptable format for conducting emergency works on drainage systems.

Emergent Aquatic Vegetation – erect, rooted, herbaceous hydrophytes that may be temporarily or permanently flooded at the base but nearly always exposed at the upper portion.

Endangered Species Act -

Equipment – any device powered by internal combustion, hydraulics, electricity (except less than one horsepower), or livestock used as draft animals, except saddle horses, and the lines cables, arms or extensions associated with the device.

Erosion Protection Works – best management practices utilized to prevent erosion from occurring.

Established Ford – a crossing place in a watercourse that was in existence and annually used prior to 1986 or subsequently permitted by WDFW, and, has identifiable approaches on the banks.

Established Notification Process – the process agreed to by

Extreme Low Tide - the lowest level reached by a receding tide.

Farm and Agricultural Land – those lands identified as such in RCW 84.34.020.

Farm Ditches – man made agricultural watercourses transporting excess surface water from an individual farm to a main or lateral ditch.

Farm Plan – for the purposes of drainage maintenance works, farm plan refers to a conservation plan addressing an on-farm drainage maintenance regime.

Field Ditch – open drainage ditch used on farm to remove surface waters and provide outlets for sub-surface drains.

Fish Function – life stage of fish

Fish Life – all fish species, including but not limited to food fish, shellfish, game fish, and other nonclassified fish species and all stages of development of those species.

Fish Stocks -

Food Fish – those species of the classes Osteichthyes, Agnatha, and Chondrichthyes that shall not be fished for except as authorized by rule of the Director of WDFW

Formal Approval – written notification from the appropriate jurisdiction.

Freshwater Area – those state waters and associated beds below the ordinary high water line that are upstream of river mouths including all lakes, ponds, and streams.

Game Fish – those species of the class Osteichthyes that shall not be fished for except as authorized by rule of the Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Hand Cutting – the removal or control of aquatic plants with the use of hand-held tools or equipment, or equipment that is carried by a person when used.

Hand-held Tools – tools that are held by hand and are not powered by internal combustion, hydraulics, pneumatics, or electricity. Some examples of hand-held tools are shovels, rakes, hammers, pry bars, and cable winches.

Hand Removal – to remove an obstructing object with the use of hand-held tools.

“Hard” Engineering Works – engineering projects utilizing structural materials such as rock or concrete.

Harmful Alteration or Disruption of Fish Habitat -

Headwaters – small rills and creeks at the uppermost end of a stream system.

Hydraulics Permit, Individual Application – an HPA application that covers only a single site and/or component of a larger, more complex project.

Hydraulic Project – construction or performance of work that will use, divert, obstruct or change the natural flow or bed of any of the salt or fresh waters of the state.

Hydraulic Project Application – a form provided by and submitted to the Department of Fish and Wildlife accompanied by plans and specifications of the proposed hydraulic project.

Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) – a written approval for a hydraulic project signed by the Director of the Department of Fish and Wildlife or his/her designee.

Hydrophyte – any plant growing in a soil at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content.

Intermittent Flow – flowing only at certain times of the year when the ground water table is high and/or when it receives water from springs or from surface source.

Intermittently Wetted -

Large Woody Debris – Conifer or deciduous logs, limbs, or root wads twelve inches or larger in diameter.

Livestock Crossing – An area constructed utilizing bmps whereby livestock may cross from one side of a waterway to the other.

Livestock Watering Area – An area constructed utilizing bmps whereby livestock may have limited access to drink water.

Local Authorizing Entity – local entity that has the authority to approve implementation of a proposed activity.

Local Conservation District – the specific conservation district that has the authority to conduct business in a specific area as provided by RCW 89.08.

Local Jurisdiction – local authority.

Local Municipal Drainage Department – The city or county department that holds responsibility for developing and implementing an approved stormwater management plan.

Local Municipality – city or county governmental body.

Machine Mowing – removal of vegetative matter using an engine powered apparatus that is not hand-held.

Machine Removal – elimination of an obstructing object using an engine power apparatus that is not hand-held.

Maintenance Methods – techniques used to maintain the drainage functions of agricultural watercourses.

Manual Cutting – pruning or mowing of vegetation using hand-held tools.

Meander – the tendency of moving water to form S-shaped curves (meanders).

Migration Corridor – the area in which an unrestricted watercourse will move in a natural state.

Mitigation – activities that avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, eliminate, compensate, or correct otherwise probable significant adverse environmental impacts.

Municipal Work – drainage maintenance done by a city or county governmental body.

Natural Conditions – those conditions that arise in or are found in nature. This is not meant to include artificial or manufactured conditions.

Natural Watercourse – a watercourse that is unaltered by human land use activities.

Notification – written announcement of intent to proceed with maintenance activities to the appropriate jurisdiction.

On-farm Drainage Infrastructure – A system of constructed components, which when utilized as a whole, and with a management plan, provides drainage benefits for a farm unit.

Ordinary High Water Mark – The mark on the shores of all waters that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual and so long continued in ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil or vegetation a character distinct from that of the abutting upland.

Perennial Flow – lasting or active through the year, continual presence of water.

Permanently Wetted – a watercourse that is wet all year long.

Pool – a portion of the stream with reduced current velocity, often with water deeper than the surrounding areas.

Pool Habitat – areas of reduced velocity which are important as resting areas as well as refuge for juvenile and adult fish, especially during low flows. Most pools are formed and maintained by trees, logs, and rootwads recruited from streambank vegetation.

Proper Functioning Condition -

Pruning of Riparian Vegetation – removing a portion of the above-ground growth of vegetation found in the riparian area.

Resource Problem – the conditions related to one or more resources that does not meet the minimum acceptable condition levels as established by resource criteria shown in Section III of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

Reduced Risk Work Timing Windows – a period of time at which there is a smaller possibility of harming a target species.

Relocated Watercourses – watercourse that has had the natural channel direction altered intentionally by humans.

Riffle Habitat – the specific environmental conditions found in a riffle area that provides the basic requirements for life of a particular type of plant or animal.

Riffle – A shallow, gravelly area of a streambed with swift current, a shallow rapids where the water flows swiftly over completely or partially submerged obstructions to produce surface agitation, but standing waves are absent.

Riparian Vegetation – vegetation growing close enough to a lake or river that its annual evapo-transpiration is a factor in the lake or river regimen.

Riparian Vegetative Cover - a specific plant community found in the land area adjacent to and associated with streams.

River or Stream – see Watercourse

Routine Drainage Maintenance Work – projects carried out on a regular schedule which are usual and customary in nature.

Salmonid – a fish of the family Salmonidae; fish in this family include salmon and trout, most salmonids are anadromous.

Saltwater Area – those state waters and associated beds below the ordinary high water line and downstream of river mouths.

Screened Ditch – a man made watercourse with an appurtenance that prevents the entry of fish.

Sediment Traps – basins designed to capture (trap) and collect sediment.

Slough – A slow moving, sometimes muddy or vegetation-choked lower section of a watercourse: often tide-influenced.

Freshwater

Tidal

Spawning Habitat –

Stream – a narrow, shallow body of water with a steady, directional current.

Stream Classification System --

Streambank Stabilization – those projects which prevent or limit erosion, slippage, and mass wasting; including, but not limited to bank resloping, log and debris relocation or removal, planting of woody vegetation, bank protection, (physical armoring of banks using rock or woody material, or placement of jetties or groins), gravel removal or erosion control.

Submergent Aquatic Vegetation – an herbaceous or non-vascular hydrophyte, either rooted or nonrooted, which lies entirely beneath the water surface, except for flowering parts in some species.

Suspect –

Temporarily Impound Water – to prevent natural flow for a limited period of time.

Thalweg – the center of the current; meanders from side to side in a stream with a corkscrew motion.

Tidal – of, having, caused by, determined by, or dependent on a tide or tides.

Timing Window – specific time period in which work is authorized and in which potential risk toward fish is minimized.

Toe of the Bank – the distinct break in the slope between the stream bank or shoreline and the stream bottom or marine beach or bed, excluding areas of sloughing.

Top of bank – the distinct break in the slope between the stream bank and the upland area.

Vegetation Removal – taking away all or part of an existing plant that obstructs drainage function.

Washington State Hydraulics Code – Chapter 220-110 of the Washington Administrative Code that regulates activities in or around waters of the state to provide protection for all fish life.

Watercourse – a channel for water, natural or man-made.

Watercourse Diversion – temporary or permanent removal of surface water flow from a watercourse.

Watercourse Relocation – deliberate movement of a watercourse from its natural channel.

Watercourse Type - for the purposes of maintenance works, watercourses are classified as constructed ditches dry and wet, natural, channelized, or relocated streams, or sloughs.

Waters of the State – all salt waters and fresh waters waterward of ordinary high water lines and within the territorial boundaries of the state.

Waterway – a channel through or along which water runs.

Wet Ditch – a constructed watercourse that is wet all year round and carries water for drainage and/or irrigation purposes.

Wet Unscreened Constructed Ditch – a man-made agricultural watercourse that has no specific screening devices to prevent fish access and that is currently holding water.

Wetted Channel – a channel that retains moisture, either from ground or surface water.

Wetted Perimeter – the areas of a watercourse covered with water, flowing or nonflowing.

Acronyms:

AWC	Agricultural Watercourses
CWA	Clean Water Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESU	Evolutionarily Significant Unit
GMA	Growth Management Act
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan (Endangered Species Act)
HPA	Habitat Protection Area
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
ITS	Incidental Take Statement
MPI	Matrix of Pathways and Indicators
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
SEPA	State Environmental Protection Act
SMA	Shorelines Management Act
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Loads (for water pollutants) (Clean Water Act)
USBR	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
USCOE	Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
WRIA	Water Resource Inventory Area